

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 MADRAS 00729 051227Z

45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-10 ISO-00 OFA-01 EB-07 AGR-10 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 CIEP-02 /060 W
----- 058232

O R 050700Z JUN 75 ZDK

FM AMCONSUL MADRAS

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

UNCLAS MADRAS 0729

E.O. 11652: N/A

AGS: BTIO, EINV, EFIS, IN

SUBJECT: CASTLE AND COOKE STUDYING INDIAN OCEAN

TUNA INVESTMENT

REF: BOMBAY 1137

1. WILLIAM B. HUSSEY WAS FORMERLY FSO WHO SERVED AS CHARGE
IN PORT LOUIS IN EARLY 1960S AND WAS LATER U.N. REPRESENTATIVE
IN WESTERN SAMOA. HE NOW RESIDES IN PAGO PAGO AMERICAN
SAMOA AND WORKS AS FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONSULTANT TO MULTINATIONAL
FIRMS. HE VISITED MADRAS AND COCHIN LAST FEBRUARY TO BEGIN
STUDY ON BEHALF OF CASTLE AND COOKE (DOLE PINEAPPLE, STANDARD
FRUIT, BUMBLE BEE SEAFOODS) TO DETERMINE WHERE BEST TUNA
RESOURCES ARE LOCATED IN INDIAN OCEAN AND HOW FIRM CAN GO
ABOUT TYING DOWN RELIABLE LONG TERM SOURCE OF SUPPLY TO BE
MARKETED IN THE U.S. UNDER BUMBLE BEE BRAND. COMPANY
IS MORE INTERESTED IN MARKETING THE PRODUCT THAN IN
CATCHING OR PROCESSING IT, AND WHILE IT MAY FIND IT NECESSARY TO
INVEST TO SOME DEGREE IN ON-SHORE PROCESSING FACILITY AND
FISHING VESSELS, IT WOULD PREFER TO AVOID BOTH COST AND RISK
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MADRAS 00729 051227Z

OF SUCH STEPS. COMPANY'S OBJECTIVE SEEMS TO BE TO STUDY WHAT
FACILITIES EXIST IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES STRETCHING FROM MAURITIUS

THROUGH THE MALDIVE ISLANDS, INDIA AND CEYLON AS FAR AS INDONESIA, CORRELATE THESE WITH THE LOCATION OF TUNA RESOURCES, AND PROCEED ACCORDINGLY.

2. IN THE SECOND STAGE OF THIS STUDY, HUSSEY IS VISITING POTENTIAL SITES TOGETHER WITH ROBERT W. FISHER, VICE PRESIDENT, HAWAII REGION, CASTLE AND COOKE FOODS INC., 610 IWILEI ROAD, HONOLULU 96817, AND RUDY KUNIHISA, A FISHERIES EXPERT FROM THE COMPANY. PARTY ARRIVED IN MADRAS MAY 30 FROM SRI LANKA, AND WILL VISIT COCHIN AND TRIVANDRUM BEFORE PROCEEDING TO BOMBAY.

3. WE ARRANGED AN APPOINTMENT IN MADRAS WITH V.A. KURIEN, PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERN SEA FOODS, WHO HAD BEGUN NEGOTIATIONS A BIT MORE THAN ONE YEAR AGO WITH NICHIRYO OF TOKYO, JAPAN FOR A LARGE SCALE TUNA FISHING VENTURE. THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE BROKEN OFF WHEN THE JAPANESE COMPANY RAN INTO FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES DURING THE ENERGY CRISIS. AT THE MOMENT, NO ONE IS EXPLOITING THE TUNA RESOURCES OFF INDIA'S COAST. HOWEVER, KURIEN SAID THE JAPANESE HAVE INDICATED AN INTEREST IN DOING SO, AND THE SOUTH KOREANS ARE ALSO KEEN. BOTH KURIEN AND KUNISIHA AGREED THAT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL TUNA RESOURCES IN INDIAN WATERS, PARTICULARLY OFF THE WEST COAST. KURIEN HAS TOLD US HE IS GOING TO JAPAN IN LATE JUNE AND WILL EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES WITH HIS CONTACTS AND GET BACK IN TOUCH WIH CASTLE AND COOKE.

4. IN COCHIN, WE ARRANGED APPOINTMENTS AS REQUESTED WITH P.K. EAPEN, A JAPANESE TRAINED FISHERIES EXPERT WITH SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OF TUNA FISHING WHO IS EMPLOYED BY TATA OIL MILLS FISHERIES DIVISION, AND WITH K. CHIDAMBARAM, DIRECTOR OF THE GOI MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. CASTLE AND COOKE MAY BE LEANING TOWARD TATA, SHOULD THEY DECIDE TO UNDERTAKE PROCESSING IN INDIA, BOTH BECAUSE OF THE FIRM'S REPUTATION FOR INTEGRITY AND IS FINANCIAL STRENGTH, AS WELL AS OUT OF RESPECT FOR EAPEN'S EXPERTISE WHICH IS AT PRESENT UNDERUTILIZED. HOWEVER, FOLLOWING BRIEFINGS ON THE INDIAN SEAFOOD INDUSTRY AT THE CONGEN AS WELL AS COMMENTS UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MADRAS 00729 051227Z

TO THE SAME EFFECT MADE BY KURIEN, FISHER AND HUSSEY REALIZE HAT SOME OF THE LARGE FIRMS WHICH HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE SEAFOOD EXPORT BUSINESS DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS HAVE DONE SO MAINLY TO EARN IMPORT LICENSES FOR SPARE PARTS NEEDED FOR THEIR OTHER OPERATIONS, AND HAVE NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY AGGRESSIVE IN EXPANDING BEYOND LIMITED SHRIMPING OPERATIONS. THUS, THEY MAY WELL GIVE ANY PROPOSAL KURIEN OR OTHER SMALLER OPERATORS MAKE A GOOD HEARING.

5. FOR BOMBAY: EAPEN OF TATA OIL MILLS SAID HUSSEY AND FISHER SHOULD DISCUSS ANY POLICY MATTERS RE COLLABORATION WITH D.S. SETH AND N.K. BHANDA OF TATA HEAD OFFICE IN BOMBAY. HUSSEY MAY ALREADY HAVE REQUESTED SUCH APPOINTMENTS IN HIS CABLE TO YOU, AND EAPEN MAY ALSO FLY TO BOMBAY WITH FISHER AND HUSSEY TO COORDINATE THINGS. HOWEVER, YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT TATA OFFICE JUST TO MAKE SURE.
EAVES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRAS00729
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750196-0969
From: MADRAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750678/aaaactdv.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BOMBAY 1137
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greenet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 FEB 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by greenet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CASTLE AND COOKE STUDYING INDIAN OCEAN TUNA INVESTMENT
TAGS: BTIO, EINV, EFIS, IN, US, BUMBLE BEE SEAFOODS, CASTLE & COOK FOODS INC, (HUSSEY, WILLIAM B)
To: BOMBAY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006